



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 23rd May, 2018, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Tommy Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Sinéad Burke, Francis Deane, Padraig Fitzsimons, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway.

Apologies: Councillor Joe Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Executive Engineer: Paul O'Brien

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 18th April, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th April, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Geraldine Lynch, née McGuinness, St. Brigid's Villas;



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The family of the late Paddy Phillips, Clusker Park;
- The family of the late Joseph (JP) Byrne, Abbeylands Crescent;
- Michele Whelan, Tourism on the death of her father, Michael;
- The families of those young people who were tragically murdered in the last week.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Navan Rugby Club on being promoted following their win in the All Ireland League;
- Adrian McNally on being the first Meath man to climb Mount Everest;
- Éilís Sheehy, LMFM on her documentary “The Tick That Changed Our Lives”.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

4.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update provided at the meeting.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Update on the planned pedestrian crossing on Brew’s Hill – it was confirmed that a zebra crossing with flashing lights was planned.
- Update on the landscaping works planned for the approach to Scoil Naomh Eoin – it was confirmed that a programme of works on the right hand side was planned following completion of cemetery works. Facilities Management were also to arrange a contractor to cut back wild growth and thin out trees on the left hand side.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Trees causing damage and overflowing bins in St. Mary's Park – it was pointed out that domestic refuse being deposited in litter bins was contributing to the problem and that a programme for bin replacement was to be carried out.
- Commencement of road remedial works – it was confirmed that the surfacing works followed by overlay would commence in the next few weeks.
- Acknowledged the work undertaken around the town, including pothole repairs on Swan Lane and the clean up in Beaufort.
- The criteria that apply to have green areas maintained in estates – it was pointed out that the Parks Department was already operating to capacity and that it may be necessary to take on a hedge cutting contractor. It was suggested that a strong local residents association/volunteer group was needed and could avail of grants to assist with grass maintenance.
- Trees causing a hazard in Woodlands – it was agreed to add these to a programme for assessment but trees would only be removed if they were causing structural damage.
- The need to improve the appearance of the Council yard on Abbey Road.

4.1.2 To receive an update on the LDR4 Abbeyland Navan Road Scheme.

Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation Department and Eoin Greene, AECOM attended the meeting and a presentation was delivered on the route selection process, study area and boundary, review of alternative corridors, route selection stage 1, route corridors, current position regarding route selection, emerging preferred route corridor, key constraints and indicative programme.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The impact on Blackwater Park, including amount of land required, noise levels, etc. – Out of 27 hectares, the maximum amount of land that would be required is approximately 2 hectares in the bottom left hand corner of the park and this amount is expected to decrease once the preliminary design is prepared.
- The need for an overall plan for the park to address its infrastructural and operational needs and to maximise its potential – it was confirmed that the plans would take account of any plans for the park and it was intended to include a cycling/pedestrian entrance at a central location to facilitate greater use of the park.
- The likely impact on traffic volumes on the Kells roundabout – it was agreed that the volumes would increase and this may be dealt with by way of signalised junctions which would improve the efficiency of traffic flow and provide crossing points for vulnerable road users. The preliminary design phase would also take into account detailed traffic analysis at this location and at Clonmagadden to ensure junctions are sufficient for future traffic flows.
- The urgent need to deliver the road as quickly as possible – it was pointed out that this is subject to a statutory process and the intention is to ensure it is done right.
- How this project fits into the wider scheme for Navan, including the need for links on the Johnstown side – it was pointed out that the road from Balreask Manor to the Trim Road to Kilcarn was at preliminary design stage and would go to Part 8.
- The examples of roads traversing other parks, e.g. Phoenix Park, and the need to implement suitable speed limits – it was agreed that there were good examples of parks coexisting with good transport links and the likely limit would be 50kmph, to be confirmed at preliminary design stage.
- The proposed carriageway width – it was confirmed that it would likely be a single carriageway with turning lanes at the junctions and cycle way and footway on both sides of the road.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Suggested that a site visit take place – it was agreed to make the necessary arrangements.

4.1.3 To receive an update on the redesign of the Junction at the Fire Station on the R147.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation outlined the background to the planned junction redesign and the proposed changes, including an additional pedestrian crossing, the removal of left hand turns, the introduction of a cycleway and the removal of the island. The intention is to encourage the correct use of the pedestrian crossings. The works are subject to TII funding. Traffic management would be required and disruption will occur, with only some works being carried out at night. The timeframe for works is approximately 12 weeks and it is hoped to commence in the summer.

Matters raised by Councillors included the likely knock on effects on traffic in the vicinity of the post office/credit union, the need to ensure that traffic slows down approaching the traffic lights and the need to facilitate any development that takes place in the old school.

4.2 Planning

4.2.1 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the development shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2017.”

- Carne Hill Housing Estate, Navan

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

4.3 Corporate Services

4.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“As the message, that NAVAN IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS, is so important to communicate to shoppers at the time when the cantilever bridge is being constructed on the R153, what steps will Meath County Council be taking during the Summer months, for example, by providing suitable signage to publicise access routes, or by releasing press announcements, in an effort to minimise disruption and loss of trade in our county town?”

Response:

The Council has set aside funding to devise and implement a marketing and promotion campaign for Navan during the period of the works. However as outlined to Councillors at the last meeting this is dependent on engagement from retailers and other business interests.. The input of businesses to any campaign is critical and without that input and engagement it will be difficult to devise an effective plan.

The Council would like to sit down with business representatives to scope out a campaign and the Economic Development team is available at any time to meet business representatives and to work with them to put a plan in place.

The response was noted.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“What plans are in place by the Executive to resurface Blackwater Park, Kells Road, Navan?”

Response:

The resurfacing of Blackwater Park does not form part of the 2018 Schedule of Municipal District Works for Navan Municipal District for 2018, which was passed by Members. If further finance becomes available, the resurfacing of Blackwater Park shall be considered as part of an evaluation process.

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The response was noted.

5.3 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

“What is the current position in relation the proposal to provide a signalised pedestrian crossing at exit from St. Joseph's Mercy Secondary School at Brews Hill?”

Response:

The Transportation section are currently examining the technical details associated with the provision of a controlled pedestrian crossing at the entrance to St. Joseph's Mercy Secondary School on Brews Hill. It is the Council's intention to tender and construct the crossing later in 2018.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

"That Meath County Council will put in place traffic calming measures on the R153 at Athlumney (in area of exit from The Grove)".

Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:

Navan Municipal District does not unfortunately have a direct budget for such works. However we shall enter this request for works onto the overall masterlist of Works Requests, which is administered by the Transportation Planning & Development Section. The request shall then be assessed in the overall context of need and justification and in the context of available finance.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I call on Navan Municipal District to install yellow box markings at the entrance of the first Blackwater Drive (No. 8 to No. 14) on the Ratholdron Road L3409, adjacent to St Paul's school where residents are experiencing great difficulty entering/exiting their estate.”

Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:

The requirement for the installation of a yellow box at the mentioned location shall be assessed and entered on the Navan MD road lining programme for 2018 if deemed to be necessary.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Navan Municipal District would consider upgrading the footpath and make improvements to public lighting at the entrance to Blackcastle Estate on the Belcourt side where construction of social housing is presently underway.”

Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:

The improvement to footpaths in this location shall be considered as part of the Navan MD Footpath Improvement Works Plan, taking into account the condition rating of the footpath and available finance. It is planned that Footpath Improvement Works shall take place in the Blackcastle/Bellcourt/Clusker Park area in 2018. The request for public lighting improvements shall be forwarded to Public Lighting Section which has a separate budget for this type of works.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The motion was adopted.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the Executive for the construction of speed ramps in Tailteann Drive, Windtown for public safety.”

Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:

The construction of speed ramps in Tailteann Drive does not form part of the 2018 Schedule of Municipal District Works for Navan Municipal District for 2018, which was passed by Members. If further finance becomes available, the proposed works shall be considered as part of an evaluation process.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

The motion was adopted.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the Executive to ensure that the length and size of the existing soccer pitches in Blackwater Park are in line with standards throughout Ireland to allow future soccer matches be played here.”

Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:

The design and contract documents for the increase in length of the existing soccer pitch at Blackwater Park are to be completed and tenders sought for the construction works. It is the aim of Meath County Council to place a Contract for the works should the costs of such works prove to be feasible.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The motion was adopted.

6.6 Submitted by Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons

“I propose the motion to seek funding for the provision of a separate dog area in Blackwater Park, where dogs could be let off their leads in a secure area, thereby posing no danger to those using or walking in the main area of the park.”

Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:

There are currently no grant schemes available for the development of a dog run/park. Any such facility would have to be funded from the Council's own resources and no allowance has been made for this in the 2018 budget.

The Community Section is in the process of contacting other local authorities who have developed dog parks/runs to determine how they were set up and how the ongoing operation/maintenance is managed. An estimated cost for a dog run/park can then be determined.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

6.7 Submitted by Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons

“I propose the motion to discuss the possibility of building a pathway from Newgate into the Railway Gates on the Kells Road. This pathway will pass the proposed "Park and Ride", and can be funded under the Navan 2030 Project.”

Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:

The proposal to include a footpath to the “Park and Ride” site proposed to the north of Navan is not contained within the scope of the Navan Town Scheme. It is unclear if



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

adequate demand would exist for such a link, as the purpose of the facility is to provide parking for those accessing public transport to the town or onward journey.

It is noted the provision of a footway of approximately 2km in length at this location along the R147 would result in significant additional costs to the Navan Town Scheme, and any such change to the scheme would necessitate approval from the National Transport Authority.

Regardless of the above, as part of the detailed design for the Scheme, including the Park and Ride site, a review will be undertaken by the designers to identify if there would be sufficient demand to justify inclusion of the suggested footway linking the proposed Park and Ride site to the town.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

7 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

7.1 To note the report from the Housing SPC meeting of 10th April, 2018.

The report was noted.

7.2 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 26th April, 2018.

The report was noted.

7.3 To note the report from the Housing SPC meeting of 4th May, 2018.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Sinéad Burke raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Requested that the Council erect the 'Welcome to Johntown' signs.

9.2 Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons raised the following issue:

9.2.1 The possibility of clearing the area on the left at the entrance to Townsparks opposite Claremont and providing a maintenance free surface, e.g. concrete.

9.2.2 Queried whether the erection of business promotion signs was permissible – it was pointed out that such signs were illegal without a licence and signs such as sandwich boards placed on footpaths also represented a hazard.

9.3 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issue:

9.3.1 The damaged wall capping at the estate entrance in Johnstown village.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára